

From: HarborComments <HarborComments@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, August 08, 2016 5:03 PM
To: PortlandHarbor
Subject: FW: Portland supports a balanced river cleanup

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, August 03, 2016 3:53 PM
To: HarborComments <HarborComments@epa.gov>
Cc: Mayor Charlie Hales <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Nick Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Steve Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Amanda Fritz <Amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Dan Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Portland supports a balanced river cleanup

I want to express my support for EPA's preferred alternative, Alternative I DMM Scenario 1, as the most cost-effective and prudent approach to responding to the lower Willamette Superfund remediation requirements.

This approach does the best job of achieving the broadest set of objectives, mitigating human exposure to toxins, providing environmental uplift, reducing risk of spreading toxins during remediation work, affordability and practicality.

A number of the lower Willamette's problem sites have already been addressed through natural recovery and employing monitored natural recovery for the maximum number of acres going forward is both effective and prudent. I would encourage EPA to continue to look for areas where they have recommended dredging and disposal to see if additional opportunities for MNR treatment can be found.

As the Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment noted, the chief risk -- albeit a low one -- is the consumption of significant quantities of resident fish. When combined with education and outreach efforts to discourage over consumption of resident species in the very specific areas of highest contamination, MNR provides a high level of human health protection. On the environmental side, aggressive dredging efforts are not only costly, but present significant risk of mobility through treatment due to the significant volume of removal materials that must be handled.

In conclusion, the preferred alternative provides the greatest benefit at the most reasonable cost and is the best balance of trade offs among the alternatives presented.

Sincerely,

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